

AMENMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

COMPLETE LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A catheter assembly for use as one of an intravascular catheter, a coronary catheter, a drainage catheter, a chemotherapy delivery catheter or a neuro-procedure catheter and comprising a tubular body having a proximal portion and a distal portion and a separate distal tip which is coupled to an outer end of said distal portion and which is made of a plastic thermoresponsive material having a temperature responsive hardness memory only tip which is harder at temperatures below a critical temperature of approximately 31 degrees C and softer at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip having a Shore hardness of 72-75 D at temperatures below said critical temperature for facilitating the pushing of said catheter into an introducing catheter and having a Shore hardness of 32-35 D at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip being made of a thermoresponsive polyurethane and having a radio-opaque material therein, said distal tip not being a shape memory tip, and said tubular body being coated with a jacket made of said plastic thermoresponsive hardness memory only material.

Claim 12. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 11 wherein said tubular body is a wire braided body comprising an inner tubular extrusion, a wire braid on the outer surface of said inner tubular extrusion and an outer tubular extrusion extruded over said wire braid.

Claim 13. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 11 wherein said distal portion of said tubular body is tapered and said distal tip is welded on or molded on said tapered distal portion.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A catheter assembly for use as one of an intravascular catheter, a coronary catheter, a drainage catheter, a chemotherapy delivery catheter or a neuro-procedure catheter and comprising a tubular body

having a proximal portion and a distal portion and a separate distal tip which is coupled to an outer end of said distal portion, and which has a temperature responsive hardness memory only tip and which is made of a plastic thermoresponsive material which is harder at temperatures below a critical temperature of approximately 31 degrees C and softer at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip having a Shore hardness of 72-75 D at temperatures below said critical temperature for facilitating the pushing of said catheter into an introducing catheter and having a Shore hardness of 32-35 D at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip being made of a thermoresponsive polyurethane and having a radio-opaque material therein, said distal tip not being a shape memory tip, said distal portion of said tubular body being tapered and said distal tip being welded on or molded on said tapered distal portion of said tubular body.

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Claim 15. (Currently Amended) The catheter claim assembly of claim 14 wherein said tubular body is coated with a jacket made of said thermoresponsive hardness memory only material.

Claim 16. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 14 wherein said tubular body is a wire braided body comprising an inner tubular extrusion, a wire braid on the outer surface of said inner tubular extrusion and an outer tubular extrusion extruded over said wire braid.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) A catheter assembly for use as one of an intravascular catheter, a coronary catheter, a drainage catheter, a chemotherapy delivery catheter or a neuro-procedure catheter and comprising a tubular body having a proximal portion and a distal portion and a separate distal tip which is coupled to an outer end of said distal portion, and which has a temperature responsive hardness memory only tip and which is made of a plastic thermoresponsive material which is harder at temperatures below a critical predetermined temperature and softer at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip not being a shape memory tip, and said tubular body being coated with a jacket made of said plastic thermoresponsive hardness memory only material.

Claim 18. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 17 wherein said tubular body is a wire braided body comprising an inner tubular extrusion, a wire braid on the outer surface of said inner tubular extrusion and an outer tubular extrusion extruded over said wire braid.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The catheter assembly for use as one of an intravascular catheter, a coronary catheter, a drainage catheter, a chemotherapy delivery catheter or a neuro-procedure catheter and comprising a tubular body having a proximal portion and a distal portion and a separate distal tip which is coupled to an outer end of said distal portion, and which has a temperature responsive hardness memory only tip and which is made of a plastic thermoresponsive material which is harder at temperatures below a critical predetermined temperature and softer at temperatures above said critical temperature, said distal tip not being a shape memory tip.

Claim 20. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 14 wherein said tubular body is a wire braided body comprising an inner tubular extrusion, a wire braid on the outer surface of said inner tubular extrusion and an outer tubular extrusion extruded over said wire braid.

*Concl* Claim 21. (Currently Amended) A catheter assembly for use as one of an intravascular catheter, a coronary catheter, a drainage catheter, a chemotherapy delivery catheter or a neuro-procedure catheter and comprising a tubular body having a proximal portion and a distal portion and a separate distal tip which is coupled to an outer end of said distal portion and said tubular body being coated with a jacket made of a plastic thermoresponsive hardness memory only material which is harder at temperatures below a critical predetermined temperature and softer at temperatures above said critical temperature.

Claim 22. (Original) The catheter assembly of claim 21 wherein said tubular body is a wire braided body comprising an inner tubular extrusion, a wire braid on the outer surface of said inner tubular extrusion and an outer tubular extrusion extruded over said wire braid.

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